



A module for driving a gas discharge lamp in response to electrical power from a source, said module comprising:

means for receiving power from the source;

an oscillator coupled to said receiving means for transforming said received power to an output signal at a frequency and voltage for causing the lamp to produce visible light through gas discharge within said lamp, wherein said lamp comprises an envelope; and

a circuit board having said oscillator mounted thereon, wherein said circuit board is integrally attached to said lamp and said circuit board mounts said oscillator within a volume having a cross-section which is substantially the same as a cross-section of said lamp envelope.

36. A module in accordance with claim 35, wherein said circuit board is attached externally to said lamp.

37. A module in accordance with claim 35, wherein said circuit board is attached internally to said lamp.

38. A module in accordance with claim 35, wherein said envelope contains heater elements.

39. A module in accordance with claim 38, wherein said oscillator output signal is coupled to said heater elements.

40. A module in accordance with claim 39, said module further comprising means

for attaching said oscillator to said heater elements.

41. A module in accordance with claim 40, wherein said attaching means comprises:

an output transformer having an array of pins and a plurality of leads connecting to said heater elements; and

a receptacle mounted on said circuit board for receiving said array of pins of said output transformer.

42. A module in accordance with claim 35, wherein the power source produces standard A.C. power, said module further including means mounted on said circuit board for converting said received power for actuating said oscillator.

43. A module in accordance with claim 35, wherein the power source produces D.C. power, said module further including means for actuating said oscillator from said received power from the D.C. source.

44. A module for driving a gas discharge lamp in response to electrical power from a source, said module comprising:

means for receiving power from the source;

an oscillator coupled to said receiving means for transforming said received power to an output signal at a frequency and voltage for causing the lamp to produce visible light through gas discharge within said lamp, wherein said lamp comprises an envelope; and

a circuit board having said oscillator mounted thereon, wherein said circuit board is contained in a housing, said housing integrally attached to said lamp, and said housing has a cross-section which is substantially the same as a cross-section of said lamp envelope.

45. A module in accordance with claim 44, wherein said housing containing said circuit board is attached externally to said lamp.

46. A module in accordance with claim 44, wherein said housing containing said circuit board is attached internally to said lamp.

47. A module in accordance with claim 44, wherein said envelope contains heater elements.

48. A module in accordance with claim 47, wherein said oscillator output signal is coupled to said heater elements.

49. A module in accordance with claim 48, said module further comprising means for attaching said oscillator to said heater elements.

50. A module in accordance with claim 49, wherein said attaching means comprises:

an output transformer having an array of pins and a plurality of leads connecting to said heater elements; and

a receptacle mounted on said circuit board for receiving said array of pins of said output transformer.

51. A module in accordance with claim 44, wherein the power source produces standard A.C. power, said module further including means mounted on said circuit board for converting said received power for actuating said oscillator.

52. A module in accordance with claim 44, wherein the power source produces D.C. power, said module further including means for actuating said oscillator from said received power from the D.C. source.